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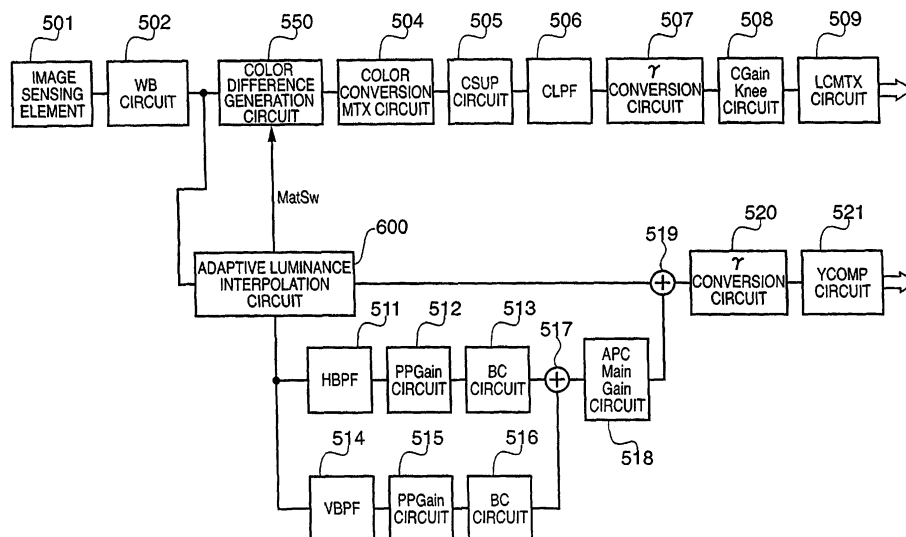
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(54) **Signal processing apparatus and method**

(57) A signal process for interpolating color signals is executed. In this process, color image data output from image sensing means covered by a plurality of color filters that form a predetermined matrix is interpolated, horizontal and vertical correlation levels are discriminated on the basis of the color image data, first color difference signals are calculated by color-separating interpolated image data of respective colors in a di-

rection with the higher correlation level on the basis of the discrimination result, and second color difference signals are calculated by a predetermined arithmetic operation different from first color difference signal calculation means on the basis of the interpolated image data of respective colors. The calculated first or second color difference signals are selected and output based on the first and second color difference signals.

FIG. 1





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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		9 August 2004	Wahba, A
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X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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